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STEPHEN SHEPARD.

It is unfortunate that, up to date, I have not been able to trace the ancestry of this Stephen Shepard, a Revolutionary soldier from Acton, Mass., who came to Phillipston soon after the Revolution and bought a farm in the northern part of the town. This farm lay on both sides of the road from Phillipston Four Corners to South Royalston and about one and one-half miles from South Royalston. The house Stephen built is still standing on the east side of the road, and was occupied until a few years ago by his great-grandson, John B. Shepard, who now (1931) lives in Vineland, N.J.

Looking west from the front door of the old house one sees a mowing and a lower field surrounded with very ancient sugar maples. In this lower field is a private cemetery of the Shepard family enclosed with hand-split native rock and wooden bars.

The large slate stone skilfully lettered (see accompanying picture) and complete with foot-stone indicates the last resting-place of Stephen Shepard. Near by is the marble stone to his wife, Prudence (Adams) Shepard. Two common field stones cover the burial places of two infant children of Timothy Shepard and Lydia (Baker), his wife. Two small stones bearing the names John and Lucy were made from cement by great-grandson John to mark the graves of John, son of Stephen, and his wife, Lucy (Addison).

On the stone of Prudence (Adams) Shepard is a memorial inscription to their son Cyrus, who was the first missionary to the Flathead Indians of Oregon. He was buried in the Willamette



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Valley, but his memorial tablet stands beside that of his father in a deserted New England pasture. There is a very curious little book, illustrated with woodcuts, in the possession of the Shepard family, giving the history of Cyrus Shepard's work. The full title is:

THE MISSIONARY TEACHER
A Memoir of Cyrus Shepard
A Brief Sketch of the Early History of
the Oregon Mission
by Rev. Z. A. Mudge.
Ed. by D. P. Kidder
New York
Pub. by Lane and Tippet for
the S. S. Union of the
Methodist Church
1848
Joseph Longking, Printer.

Cyrus Shepard resided, at the time of his call, in Lynn, Mass.

Stephen Shepard went to the war from Acton, Mass. For a complete record of his service, consult "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War, Vol. XIV, pp. 129-130. The following excerpts give a picture of this farmer, shoemaker, soldier: "Sheppard, Stephen, Acton. Sergeant-Capt. Wm. Hudson Ballard's co., Col. Brooks' Regt. Cont. Army, pay accounts for service Mar. 15, 1777 to Dec. 31, 1779. Residence, Acton. Credited to town of Acton, reported as serving 10 mos. 7 days as sergeant, 23 mos. 9 days as corporal." Under another spelling appears: "Stephen Shepard Jan. 11, 1781 in Lt. Col. John Brooks' Regt., age 30 yr., stature 5 ft. 9 in.; complexion, light; hair, light; occupation, shoemaker; birthplace, Acton; residence, Acton; Sergeant." "Leave from Major Porter Jan. 21, 1782 to go from West Point to Acton for 55 days, overstayed 22 days." There are records from Mar. 25, 1777 to 1782.

Stephen Shepard

b. Feb. 13, 1750, Acton, Mass.
 d. July 4, 1831, Phillipston, Mass.

Prudence Adams

b. July 24, 1757, Acton, Mass.
 d. Jan. 5, 1847, Phillipston, Mass.
 (dau. of Lt. John Adams of Acton.)

m. Aug. 29, 1786, Acton.

Ch:

- 1 Betsey b June 24, 1787, Acton.
- 2 Serena b Oct. 29, 1788, Acton.
- 3 Stephen b Apr. 20, 1790, Acton; perhaps went west & never
- # 4 John b Dec. 2, 1794, Acton. (heard from again.)
- 5 Cyrus b Aug. 14, 1798, Acton; d. in Willamette Valley,
 Oregon, Jan. 1, 1840, a 40 y. 5 mo. [G.S.]
 m. Susan ----, who m. 2d, ---- Whitcomb.
 Ch: 1 Ann m. ---- Newhall.
 2 Alice d. unmarried.

John Shepard (s. of Stephen)

b. Dec. 2, 1794, Acton, Mass.
 d. Aug. 1870, Phillipston, Mass.

Lucy Addison

b. July 29, 1808, Goffstown, N.H.
 d. Feb. 21, 1882

m. int. Oct. 25, 1833, Phillipston.

Ch:

- # 1 Timothy Addison b. Dec. 3, 1836, Phillipston.

Timothy Shepard

b. Dec. 3, 1836, Phillipston, Mass.
 d. Oct. 9, 1905, Phillipston, Mass.

Lydia Ann Baker

b. Sept. 15, 1844, Mt. Tabor, Vt (Danby)
 d. Sept. 6, 1900, Phillipston, Mass.

Buried in Lower Cemetery.

m. July 11, 1862.

Ch:

- 1 Alice Alma b Aug. 30, 1863, Phillipston
 m. Albert Collins, Dec. 5, 1885
 Ch: Eugene Marshall Collins, b. July 5, 1887.
 Ruby Alma Collins b Jan. 30, 1889.

- 2 Eva Lucy b. Nov. 18, 1865, Phillipston
 d. Sept. 12, 1924, Athol.
 m. Edwin Ward, Sept. 18, 1889.

- 3 Frederick Cyrus b. Jan. 28, 1869, Phillipston; d. very soon.

- 4 Cyrus Carleton b. Dec. 25, 1869, Phillipston

- 5 John Baker b. Dec. 21, 1874, Phillipston
 m. Mabel Smith (b. Feb. 6, 1877)
 Ch: Harold b. Mar. 8, 1898; rec'd Ph.D. at
 Mass. State Coll.
 June 1931.

Howard Addison b. Jan. 19, 1900

d. Mar. 14, 1901

Earle Vivian b. Mar. 5, 1902

d. Aug. 11, 1924

Milton Smith b. Jan. 4, 1904

Dorothy b. Mar. 28, 1906

Vera Lucy b. Aug. 11, 1912

6 Henry Adams b.Oct.23,1876, Phillipston
 m.Edith Dockham (b.Dec.22,1879)
 Ch: Ellen b.Jan.8,1914
 Frances Lydia b.June 6,1921

7 Maud Earnestine b.Feb.16,1883; unm.; lives in N.Y.

8 Arthur died very soon after birth.

Following is the family record of the father of Prudence (Adams)
Shepard, as far as known at present:

<u>Lt. John Adams of Acton</u>	m.1st, <u>Mercy</u>
b.	b.
d.Oct.30,1803, æ 87 y.	d.
	m.2d, <u>Abigail</u>
	b.
	d.May 15,1814, æ 82.

Ch:

1 Samuel	1744
2 John	1746
3 Sarah	1747/8
4 Olive	1749
5 Molly	1751
6 Love	1753
7 Mercy	1755
(8 Prudence 1757)	m. Stephen Shepard in 1786.
(9 Samuel 1757)	
10 Lucy	1759
11 Solomon	1761

Compiled by Miss Claire E. Smith,
38 Arlington St., Chicopee Falls, Mass.
Margery Morton Chap., D.A.R. of Athol, Mass.
1931.

Shepard



The little Shepard Cemetery in the field off the road from Phillipston Four corners to South Royalston in which is buried Stephen Shepard a soldier of the Revolution .

The white stone on the right is to Prudence wife of Stephen and to the memory of Cyrus their youngest son who was the first missionary to the Flathead Indians of Oregon. He is buried somewhere in the Willamette Valley.



Stephen Shepard



Prudence
wife of
Stephen Shepard

also
Cyrus their
son

I N S C R I P T I O N S
ON THE
SHEPARD GRAVESTONES

"This Humble monument was erected by the hand of filial affection to mark the spot where rest the mortal remains of STEPHEN SHEPARD, a patriot of the Revolution, born 13th Feb. 1750, deceased 4th July 1831, At. 81 y. 4 mo. 21 days."

"Prudence, wife of Stephen Shepard: died Jan. 5, 1847, aged 89 years.

Cyrus, youngest son of Stephen & Prudence Shepard, died Jan. 1, 1840. He was one of the first Missionaries to the Flathead Indians. He died at the Mission Station."

Records from the Stephen Shepard Bible
1932 now in possession of
John B. Shepard, Vineland, N.J.

BIRTHS

Stephen Shepard born Acton Feb. 13, 1750.
(old record says Feb. 2.)

Prudence Adams, wife of S. S. born July 24, 1757.

Their children:

Betsey born June 24, 1787

Serena " Oct. 29, 1788

Stephen " April 20, 1790

John " Feb. 4, 1793

John " Dec. 2, 1794

Cyrus " Aug. 14, 1798 in Gerry

Cyrus (Ann Maria Lee Shepard, first white girl
and (born in Oregon August 21, 1838
Susan (Alace Adams born in Oregon Jan. 24, 1840

Old record written by Prudence says "Came to
Gerry, May 16th, 1798."

MARRIAGES

Betsey, daughter of Stephen and Prudence Shepard was married to Benjamin Mixer, Jan. 31, 1816.

Serena, daughter of Stephen and Prudence Shepard was married to Zenas Johnson, Feb. 27, 1820.

Stephen Shepard was married to Lucy Goodnow, April 17, 1820.

John Shepard was married to Lucy Addison, Dec. 5, 1833.

Cyrus Shepard was married to Susan Downing of Lynn, June 16, 1837, in Oregon.

John Shepard married Mabel Smith May 12, 1897.

Harold Shepard married Eleanor Geiger Sept. 5, 1924.

Milton Shepard married Ruth Alma Clark Oct. 1, 1927.

Stephen Shepard married Prudence Adams Aug. 29, 1786.

DEATHS

John, son of Stephen and Prudence Shepard, died Feb. 20, 1793,
aged 16 days.

Serena, daughter of Stephen and Prudence, died June 25, 1821,
aged 32 yrs, 7 mo, 27 days.

Lucy, wife of Stephen Shepard, died Aug. 25, 1826, aged 26 yr.
3 mo. 7 days (or 17 days).

Stephen Shepard, died July 4th, 1831, aged 81 yr. 4 mo. 21 days.

Cyrus Shepard died Jan. 1, 1840, aged 40 yr. 8 mo.

Prudence Shepard died Jan. 5, 1847, aged 89 yr. 5 mo. 14 days.

#Betsey Mixer died Sept. 8, 1874, aged 87 years.

#John Shepard died Aug. 24, 1870, aged 75 yr. 8 mo. 22 days.

John Adams Record.

John Adams born in Died Oct. 30, 1803 at Acton
Lexington Feb.22,1717

Mercy Sanderson, his first Died Mar. 12, 1768 at Acton.
wife was born in
Waltham, 1718,

Children

Samuel born Sept. 22, 1744 Died Oct. 17, 1746

John born Sept. 16, 1746 Died Apr. 7, 1801

Sarah born Feb. 22, 1748

Olive born Dec. 29, 1749 Died Dec. 18, 1784

Molly born July 17, 1751

Lovey born June 3, 1753 Died Oct. 26, 1776 at Westford

Mercy born Nov. 25, 1755

Samuel and) born July 24, 1757
Prudence)

Lucy born Nov.1, 1759

Solomon born Mar. 18, 1761

Abigail Faulkner, his second
wife was born at Andover, Apr. 12, 1732.

Children

Anna Faulkner) twins
and Abigail) born Aug. 22, 1769

Nathan born Jan. 4, 1771 Died Oct. 10, 1776

Hannah born May 26, 1773 Died Sept. 1, 1814 at Framingham

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